



Brad Keselowski Post-Race Notes & Quotes
Samson Stone Ford F-150
Bristol Motor Speedway
O' Reilly 200 presented by Valvoline Maxlife
August 24, 2005
Started 15th
Finished 18th

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KESELOWSKI IMPRESSES AT BRISTOL

At the end of the O'Reilly 200 at Bristol Motor Speedway, the K Automotive Motorsports team looked as though they had won the race when they came to the checkered flag in the 18th finishing position. Brad Keselowski had come to the high-banked, half-mile at Bristol for the first time in his racing career hoping to simply keep his patience and keep the fenders on the truck. The 21-year old had no problem keeping his patience and brought his No. 29 Samson Stone Ford home as the first truck one lap down with a truck that still looks almost as good as it did when the green flag flew on the 36-truck field.

"This is one of those races where just finishing with an intact truck feels like a win," said Keselowski. "Most of the guys in the shop dread coming to Bristol because over the past few seasons it feels as though we can never leave here with a complete truck when the race is over. And with this being my first career start at Bristol I think we were all pretty worried about how this event would play out. We practiced really well and I was able to get a lot of grip out of the tires without using them up too fast. We were able to pick up about two tenths in our laps times between practice and qualifying which gave us a pretty good starting position."

After taking the green flag from the 15th starting position, Keselowski quickly learned just how quick things can happen in front of you at Bristol as two early caution flags were brought out by incidents almost directly in front of Keselowski. With some skillful maneuvering, Keselowski was able to avoid both incidents. Following a pit stop for tires and fuel, Keselowski and the rest of the field would prepare for a long green flag period taking them almost all the way to the checkered flag. As the event reached 15 laps remaining, Keselowski would be put one lap down by the lead truck while running in the 18th position. Almost immediately thereafter the final caution flag of the event would fly ultimately making Keselowski the recipient of the 'lucky dog'. However a miscommunication with Keselowski brought him to pit road to early causing him to

relinquish his 'lucky dog' distinction and forcing him to remain one lap down to the lead trucks. Keselowski would restart the event in the 18th position as the first truck one lap down and although he was able to pass five trucks in the final three laps he was forced to take the 18th place finish.

"I'm really proud of what our team was able to accomplish here at Bristol," said Keselowski. "The Samson Stone Ford was good all night and I know we would have finished even better if it was not for that late miscue with the lucky dog situation. But overall this was exactly what we needed in preparation for Richmond and in the points. We are really excited that this same truck, Super Droop, will be able to make the trip to Richmond rather than a trip for major repairs."

The next event scheduled for K Automotive and the NASCAR Craftsman Truck Series will be on Thursday evening, September 8 at the Richmond International Raceway in Virginia.

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